

**NOVEL EBI-3-alt PROTEIN AND NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES  
AND USES THEREFOR**

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Abstract of the Disclosure

Novel EBI-3-alt polypeptides, proteins, and nucleic acid molecules are disclosed. In addition to isolated, full-length EBI-3-alt proteins, the invention further provides isolated EBI-3-alt fusion proteins, antigenic peptides and anti-EBI-3-alt antibodies. The invention also provides EBI-3-alt nucleic acid molecules, recombinant expression  
10 vectors containing a nucleic acid molecule of the invention, host cells into which the expression vectors have been introduced and non-human transgenic animals in which an EBI-3-alt gene has been introduced or disrupted. Diagnostic, screening and therapeutic methods utilizing compositions of the invention are also provided.